



THE
MUSIC
COMMISSION

RESEARCH DESIGN FEBRUARY 2018



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Research Plan, PHASE I

January	Propose research question	RESEARCH QUESTION What are the opportunities and barriers to progress in the engagement with music?		
		Apply for ethical approval		
February	Conduct literature review, fieldwork and analysis	STRAND I Wide reaching public survey		
March				
April		STRAND II Focus groups	STRAND III Literature analysis	
May				
June				
July				
August	Submit interim report to Arts Council England	Cross-reference empirical data		
September	Write up final report	Report writing and drawing up recommendations for next steps		
October				
November	Publish final report	Public debates		Launch of literature portal
December	Plan Commission Phases 2 and 3			

Research Design, PHASE I

OVERALL QUESTION FOR THE MUSIC COMMISSION

WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES FOR SUPPORTING PROGRESS IN THE ENGAGEMENT WITH MUSIC?

Initial stakeholder consultations



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

RQ1. What are the opportunities to progress for someone who learns and engages with music?

RQ2. What are the barriers that someone who learns and engages with music might face in sustaining their music making?



STRAND I Survey	STRAND II Focus Groups	STRAND III Literature Analysis
AIM To understand what the key priorities are, as identified by the public.	AIM To gauge the key priorities identified by the focus groups and analyse these against the findings of the survey. To develop further questions for Phase 2 of the Commission.	AIM To collate and analyse the secondary literature.
METHOD Multi-model survey based around five / six themes, available online, paper-based and using AV.	METHOD Stakeholder focus groups.	METHOD Cross-domain review of abstracts and bibliographies. Creation of an annotated bibliography.
SAMPLE >2000 respondents from the public.	SAMPLE Sample of 10 stakeholder groups, with the option to extend this process if necessary.	SAMPLE Academic and non-academic literature.

The research design is flexible in approach and will be subjected to review at key points during its implementation. This may include determining whether the survey implementation period has been long enough and whether the focus group cover an appropriate range of stakeholders. Strand III is an ongoing process and will collate suitable material for the Literature Portal.